



MICHIGAN  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
P.O. Box 30014  
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909-7514

**THE MINUTES OF THE HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON  
COMMERCE AND TRADE**

**Tuesday, May 5, 2015**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Room 519 House Office Building**

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The House Standing Committee on Commerce and Trade was called to order by **Representative Joseph Graves**, Chair.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Representatives Graves, Sheppard, Callton, Jenkins, Johnson, Rendon, Somerville, Hughes, Barrett, Garcia, Glenn, Leutheuser, Schor, Townsend, Byrd, Garrett, Geiss, Love and Moss.

**MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED:** None.

**Representative Sheppard** moved to adopt the minutes from the **April 28, 2015**, meeting. There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

**Chair Graves** laid **HB 4226** before the committee:

HB 4226 (Garcia)	Economic development; economic development corporations; certified technology park distinct geographic areas; increase.
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A draft of the substitute (H-1) for HB 4226 was submitted to the committee for their review.

**TESTIMONY**

**Representative Garcia**, sponsor of HB 4226, explained her bill to the committee.

**Kara Wood**, representing the City of Grand Rapids, testified in support of the bill.

**Jennifer Owens**, representing Lakeshore Advantage and the Holland SmartZone, testified in support of the bill.

Questions and discussion followed.

**Representative Garcia** returned and gave additional comments.

**Rick Baker**, President and CEO of the Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, and **Jane Clark**, President of the Michigan West Coast Chamber of Commerce, testified and submitted written testimony in support of the bill.

**David Bertram**, Assistant Vice President for State Affairs, representing Michigan State University, testified in support of the bill.

**Deena Bosworth**, representing the Michigan Association of Counties (MAC), testified indicating neutrality on the bill.

**Joel Freeman**, representing the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), testified indicating neutrality on the bill.

*The following individuals submitted a card and/or written testimony but did not wish to speak:*

Jerry Kooiman, Chairman of the Grand Rapids SmartZone Board and Assistant Dean for External Relations at Michigan State University College of Human Medicine in Grand Rapids, supports the bill.

Nikki Brown, representing the Michigan Municipal League, supports the bill.

Rusty Merchant, representing The Right Place, supports the bill.

Rusty Merchant, representing the Grand Rapids Public Schools, supports the bill.

Jim Miller, representing the City of Grand Rapids, supports the bill.

Jim Miller, representing Ottawa County, supports the bill.

Dennis Van Dam, representing the Ottawa County Board of Commissioners, supports the bill.

There being no further business to come before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:53 a.m.

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**Representative Joseph Graves, Chair**  
**House Standing Committee on Commerce and Trade**  
Malika Abdul-Basir  
Committee Clerk  
517-373-7256  
1 Hour and 23 Minutes